GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3228
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2001
MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE FOR FOODGRAINS
BHUPENDRASINH PRABHATSINH SOLANKI;RADHA MOHAN SINGH;SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have chalked out a plan to provide the benefits of minimum support price of foodgrains directly to the farmers;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether this plan is likely to minimize burden on Food Corporation of India to buy foodgrains;

(d) if so, the time by which this new plan is likely to be implemented and the agency through which the benefits would reach to farmers indicating the details of benefits; and

(e) the measures taken to promote horticulture and organic agriculture?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (d): Under the existing Minimum Support Price scheme, the Government,through central nodal agencies, procures agricultural commodities, covered under the scheme, so as to ensure remunerative prices to the farmers. No other scheme has been finalized so far to replace the existing scheme.

(e): For promoting horticulture, the Government is implementing National HorticultureBoard Programmes; Integrated Development of Coconut Industry; Technology Missionon Integrated Development of Horticulture in the North-eastern States including Sikkim;Central Sector Scheme on Development of Horticulture in Tribal/Hilly Areas; and Central Sector Scheme on Human Resource Development in Horticulture. With regard to promotion of organic agriculture, Government set up a Task Force on Organic Farming. The Task Force has submitted the report in November 2001 giving various suggestions for promotion of organic farming in the country.